

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 KUALA 01806 240050Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DHA-02 MCT-01 COME-00

ACDA-07 IO-13 /083 W

-----240056Z 066084 /14

R 230636Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6606

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

/AMCONSUL HONG KONG 2195

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

A/AMEMBASSY MANILA 5486

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 1806

HONG KONG ALSO FOR RSO

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, MY

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST STEP UP ASSASSINATION OF CIVILIANS

1. SUMMARY/INTRODUCTION. KILLING OF A KUALA LUMPUR RUKUN  
TETANGGA SECTOR COMMITTEE MEMBER MARCH 20 AND LETTER BOMB  
RECEIVED RECENTLY BY MALAYSIA'S CHIEF OF POLICE HAVE BEEN  
ATTRIBUTED TO COMMUNIST TERRORIST GROUPS. THESE EVENTS,  
IN CONJUNCTION WITH SEVERAL KILLINGS RECENTLY IN STATE OF  
PAHANG, SUGGEST COMMUNISTS HAVE INITIATED A TERROR  
CAMPAIGN TO DISSUADE CIVILIANS FROM PARTICIPATING IN  
GOVERNMENT SECURITY EFFORTS, A TACTIC WHICH COULD PROVE  
AS COUNTERPRODUCTIVE NOW AS IT WAS IN THE FIRST EMERGENCY.  
END SUMMARY/INTRODUCTION.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 KUALA 01806 240050Z

2. KUALA LUMPUR RUKUN TETANGGA (RT) SECTOR  
COMMITTEE MEMBER CHAN HENG HOE, 42 (A PORK SELLER),  
WAS SHOT TO DEATH AT APPROXIMATELY 10:30 P.M.  
MARCH 20 OUTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD PATROL BASE BY  
UNIDENTIFIED GUNMEN. KILLERS, BELIEVED TO INCLUDE  
TWO MEN AND TWO WOMEN ARMED WITH PISTOLS, SET

FIRE TO THE BUILDING AND THREW SEVERAL HOMEMADE GRENADES (WHICH FAILED TO EXPLODE). THEY ALSO LEFT DOCUMENTS AT THE SCENE.

3. MALAYSIA'S CHIEF OF POLICE, INSPECTOR GENERAL TAN SRI HANIF OMAR, SUBSEQUENTLY PRAISED CHAN FOR HIS PUBLIC SERVICE AND ANNOUNCED KILLING WAS CARRIED OUT BY COMMUNIST ASSASSINATION SQUAD. HANIF ASSERTED THAT KILLING OF OVER 2,000 CIVILIANS BY COMMUNIST TERRORISTS DURING 1948-60 "EMERGENCY" HAD COST COMMUNISTS POPULAR SUPPORT BUT COMMUNISTS NOW APPARENTLY HAD FORGOTTEN THIS. HE CITED RECENT KILLINGS OF THREE CIVILIANS, KIDNAPPING OF ANOTHER, AND WOUNDING OF A FIFTH IN STATE OF PAHANG AS EXAMPLES OF COMMUNIST "TERROR TACTICS." (ALL VICTIMS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN SOME WAY WITH GOVERNMENT SECURITY EFFORTS, PRIMARILY AS MEMBERS OF RELA--LOCAL SELF-DEFENSE VOLUNTEER CORNS.) PRESS REPORTS NOTED CHAN'S FAMILY WILL RECEIVE M\$10,000 (US\$4,000) COMPENSATION FROM GOVERNMENT AND THAT DONATIONS AND EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY FOR THE FAMILY ARE "POURING IN."

4. POLICE ANNOUNCED MARCH 22 THAT THEY HAD INTERCEPTED A PARCEL BOMB ADDRESSED TO IGP HANIF AND EXPLODED IT HARMLESSLY. BECAUSE BOMB WAS MAILED FROM KOTA BRU, KELANTAN, AND WAS SIMILAR IN SIZE TO TWO BOMBS EXPLODED IN KELANTAN IN 1975, POLICE BELIEVE IT TO BE WORK OF 10TH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 KUALA 01806 240050Z

REGIMENT OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF MALAYA WHOSE HEADQUARTERS IS LOCATED ACROSS THE THAI-KELANTAN BORDER. POLICE STATEMENT NOTED: "WHILE THIS MAY BE AN ISOLATED CASE OF AN ATTEMPT TO CAUSE INJURY TO AN OBVIOUS TARGET BY POST, THE POLICE WOULD LIKE TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF...ALL OFFICERS WHO ARE OBVIOUS OBJECTS OF CPM'S RESENTMENT AND FRUSTRATION TO BE ALERT."

5. COMMENT. ATTACK ON RT PARTICIPANT SUGGESTS MILITANT COMMUNIST ELEMENTS ARE APPREHENSIVE ABOUT THIS SYSTEM OF HOUSEHOLD REGISTRATION AND MANDATORY NEIGHBORHOOD PATROLS BY RESIDENTS WHICH WAS LAUNCHED IN AUGUST 1975, AND NOW IS OPERATIONAL IN MANY AREAS OF PENINSULAR MALAYSIA. SINCE PEAK PERIOD IN 1974-75 WHEN OVER A DOZEN POLICE OFFICIALS, PRINCIPALLY SPECIAL BRANCH DETECTIVES, WERE KILLED IN AMBUSHES, THERE HAS BEEN A COMPARATIVE LULL IN SUCH ACTIVITIES. RECENT INCIDENTS MAY INDICATE THE

BEGINNING OF A NEW COMMUNIST TERRORIST CAMPAIGN.  
HOWEVER, DURING THE FIRST EMERGENCY SUCH TACTICS  
WERE USUALLY RESORTED TO WHEN CPM UNITS WERE  
UNDER THE MOST GOM PRESSURE, AS KILLING CIVILIANS  
RESULTED IN LOSS OF POPULAR SUPPORT FOR THE CPM.  
IF THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF A NEW TERRORIST  
CAMPAIGN, IT IS NO MORE LIKELY TO BE SUCCESSFUL  
NOW THAN IT WAS IN THE 1950'S.  
UNDERHILL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COMMUNISTS, TERRORISTS, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 23-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977KUALA01806  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770100-0519  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** KUALA LUMPUR  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770332/aaaabbbv.tel  
**Line Count:** 125  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 4aa2aab3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 04-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3026396  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** COMMUNIST STEP UP ASSASSINATION OF CIVILIANS  
**TAGS:** PINS, MY  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/4aa2aab3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009